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# UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 88, No. 1

WKU Student Affairs

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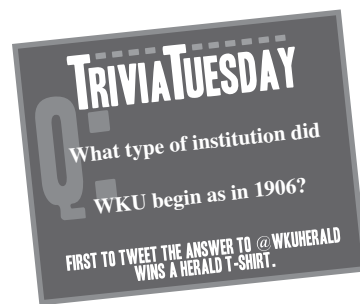
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Check out  
**Trivia  
Tuesday**  
new on  
page 5



KRISTIN SMITH/HERALD

## Coca-Cola outbids Pepsi for campus soda rights

By **MICHAEL McKAY**  
news@wkuherald.com

WKU students can now “open happiness” thanks to a new partnership with Coca-Cola.

Two weeks ago, the bottler won the campus pouring rights for the next 10 years after submitting a better proposal than Pepsi.

This means that Coca-Cola products will be sold in every dorm, soda fountain, convenience store and athletic facility, replacing Pepsi for the first time in 15 years.

Campus convenience stores like the Bate Shop and the Pit Stop will offer Coca-Cola products on 90 per-

cent of the shelves and Pepsi products in the remaining 10 percent of the shelf. This is a reversal from last semester when Coca-Cola was allowed to be sold in 10 percent of the two stores.

John Osborne, vice president for campus services and facilities, said the contract with Pepsi had been extended through business negotiations, but it couldn’t be extended any further.

“It was a point in time where we had no additional extensions in the contract; it had to be bid,” Osborne said. “In other words, open competition was the only option.”

SEE **SODA**, PAGE 3

## WKU could lose \$5 million in funding

By **CAMERON KOCH**  
news@wkuherald.com

Proposed budget cuts in Frankfort will soon be reaching WKU as the university faces some of the most severe state budget cuts in recent memory.

Gov. Steve Beshear’s proposed state budget for the next two years includes a 6.4 percent cut across all post-secondary education. That translates into WKU having about \$5 million less in state allocations than it has had in previous years.

Despite increasing enrollment, since 2008, WKU has lost more than \$10 million in state funding.

President Gary Ransdell made clear the gravity of the situation at the Board of Regents meeting on Friday, .

Though the school has experienced budget cuts before, never has it suffered through a cut this large, Ransdell said.

“We weren’t completely surprised. We saw this coming,” Ransdell said. “But I’m an eternal optimist. I was optimistic for maybe even a break-even budget.”

Ransdell explained that WKU has been doing all the easy things to save money in past years to deal with budget cuts, but all the easy options have been exhausted.

“We’ve done the easy things,” Ransdell said. “We’ve created new efficiency, saved money on utilities, converted from coal to natural gas, closed for extra days to save energy, but we’ve not laid a single employee off.”

SEE **BUDGET**, PAGE 2

## WKU changes admission requirements

By **NATALIE HAYDEN**  
news@wkuherald.com

WKU is changing its admission standards in order to bring in more qualified students and improve retention.

The new standards, which will go into effect in the fall, take into account a combination of a prospective student’s ACT score and high school GPA, said Brian Meredith, associate vice president for Enrollment Management.

Under the new standards, a student is guaranteed admission if they have an ACT composite score of 20 or a GPA of 2.5 and an ACT score of 15 or above. If a student does not meet these requirements, a combination of their ACT score and GPA are looked at, as well as other factors, such as high school class choices.

“We need to look more holistically at individuals and what their goals are,” said Gordon Emslie, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Previously, a student with a high school GPA of 2.0 or above or an ACT score of 20 or above was automatically admitted to WKU.

“The ACT is an innate ability, a one-day test, while GPA shows persistence,” Emslie said. “They are a combination of what you need to be successful in college.”

WKU has also gotten rid of the “types” of admission, which Emslie said there were problems with. With the old standards, a student could have conditional, directed or full admission. Now, students will either be admitted or denied.

These changes were decided upon because of the low retention rate at WKU.

The university also has other ways to improve retention, such as a retention task force and the STEPS (Success Through Evaluation, Placement and Support) and Cornerstone programs, Emslie said.

SEE **CHANGE**, PAGE 2

## What's your flavor?

I WANT

MOUNTAIN DEW

BACK

—Kristen Orth

WKU President Gary Ransdell and Howard Bailey, vice president of student affairs, were talking in jest about the transition to Coca-Cola from Pepsi.

“Clearly Student Affairs didn’t read the transition yet, have they, Howard?” Ransdell said.

“No, not today,” said Bailey, who had a Diet Mountain Dew sitting on the table in front of him. “We have our preference.”



ELIZABETH FRANTZ/HERALD

Pepsi soda fountains were removed from DUC, and Coca-Cola machines were installed in their place on Monday, Jan. 16.



ELIZABETH FRANTZ/HERALD

Visitors to The Fresh Food Company in DUC use the newly installed soda fountain machines on Thursday, Jan. 19. WKU signed a new 10-year contract with Coca-Cola after being associated with Pepsi for 15 years.

—Chelsea Barrett  
Florence junior

I just like

Coke

products better



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TUE. 54° / 35°

WED. 51° / 48°

THURS. 53° / 40°

FRI. 50° / 39°

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SUN. 47° / 32°



# New Music Hall open for spring semester

By MICHAEL MCKAY  
news@wkuherald.com

The music rehearsal hall behind the fine arts center opened yesterday in time for the beginning of the spring semester. Construction began on the project in August 2010.

The rehearsal hall will be used for instrumental and choral rehearsals and holds offices for conductors and other faculty, three performance music libraries and storage areas.

Mitzi Groom, head of the music department, said Thursday that everyone involved with the project worked harder to ensure that the building would be open for the spring semester.

"This week has been a whirlwind," Groom said.

The building will be able to accommodate a growing program,

she said.

"This has been a need that the department has had for a long time," Groom said.

The opening of the music hall has allowed more classes to be available to students, she said.

"It opens up our schedule of classes tremendously," Groom said.

The music hall will feature advanced audio and visual equipment, such as adjustable acoustic curtains, to simple upgrades like soundproofing, which are upgrades from spaces in FAC.

Band director Gary Schallert, is one of the faculty members that has moved over into the music hall. Schallert said the audio and video technology will aid in his teaching.

"These rooms are acoustically perfect — as close to perfect as you can get," Schallert said.

The hall is at or above industry standards, he said.

"This is a state of the art facility that I think is going to be the envy of just about any music department in the region," Schallert said. "We now have facilities that make us very competitive and allow us to rehearse like we should, at a college level."

Cave City sophomore Jacob Sturgeon is one of the students who has rehearsed in the new music hall.

Sturgeon said he could hear the difference in the rehearsal hall and the area is more spacious.

"You don't feel like you're sitting on top of each other anymore," he said.



SHELBY MACK/HERALD

Kerra Ogden, WKU planning, design & construction project manager; Jeff Stivers, the principal architect of the building from Ross Tarrant Architects; and Dean of Potter College, David Lee, do a final walkthrough of the new music rehearsal hall on campus and make plans to give a tour of the building to the Board of Regents.

# WKUPD officer saves student from choking

By SPENCER JENKINS  
news@wkuherald.com

During a dinner date between two WKU students at Cabrera's Mexican Restaurant Bar N Grill on Jan. 18, Hendersonville, Tenn., freshman Desiree Moss began choking, but a WKU police officer intervened and saved her life.

"I literally thought I was dying," Moss said. "I couldn't breathe, I didn't know what to do."

Moss' boyfriend, Virginia Beach, Va., sophomore Jesse Arney tried helping her, he said.

"I jumped up and asked if she could breathe and got no response,"

he said. "It was a chimichanga of all things."

"She had all four wisdom teeth taken out earlier in the week, and this was the first time I'd taken her out since she had the surgery."

Moss said she was scared because Arney didn't know what to do. She also didn't chew up her chicken enough, which led Moss to drink water, making the situation worse.

Arney noticed two WKU police officers sitting nearby, Cpl. Ben Craig and Officer Danny Wilson and asked for help in saving his girlfriend of four months.

Wilson administered the Heimlich maneuver, Arney said. With a

few thrusts, the food spilled out of Moss' mouth.

Wilson noticed Moss acting strange before he saw Arney smack her on the back, and then Wilson knew she was choking, he said.

"She tried to mumble something out of her mouth, and I could tell she was choking," Wilson said.

Craig called emergency medical services confirming Moss' condition was stable, Wilson said.

Moss said if Wilson hadn't been there, she doesn't know what she would have done.

"I feel like God sent me a guardian angel," she said. "He's literally my savior."

Arney said the potential death of Moss scared him, but Wilson's survival skills saved her.

Arney said he's grateful for the police officer's actions.

"I shook his hand multiple times," he said. "They were very cooperative and very helpful — nothing but good things to say about them."

Wilson is fresh out of the police academy and began his training with WKUPD on Dec. 5, said Mandi Johnson, public information officer for WKUPD.

Wilson said he's just glad he was there to help her.

"We become officers to help

people," he said.

Wilson will get the Distinguished Life-Saving Medal, Johnson said. Anybody that's done something to preserve life receives the medal.

A formal ceremony for Wilson's actions will occur at a later date, Johnson said. All the officers will come together, and Chief Robert Deane will give Wilson a certificate and a medal.

Wilson said he doesn't do his job to get awards.

"My award was seeing she was all right," he said.

Moss said she doesn't plan on avoiding the restaurant, because it's her favorite.

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## BUDGET

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"We will do everything we possibly can to preserve jobs, preserve employment. We're dedicated to that. We've got our hands full."

Despite a tough budget, Ransdell said WKU wasn't going to stop its current plans to save money and is still intent on filling around 77 vacant positions on campus.

"We're moving forward with every one of those searches," Ransdell said. "If you do a hiring freeze, how do you know the position you freeze isn't more important than one that is already filled?"

Though the proposed budget cuts are steep, they are not yet final.

The proposed budget must be approved and can be altered by both the Kentucky House of Representatives and Senate before going back to Beshear for approval.

## CHANGE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The retention task force looks for ways to improve retention rates at WKU, while the STEPS program gives students more in-depth advising. The Cornerstone program is directed toward students at South Campus and encourages students to spread out their developmental classes.

"We have an acute issue with students making it from freshman to sophomore year," Emslie said. "Retention after sophomore year is very high. We want to make students comfortable in their new environment."

Sharon Hunter, coordinator of college readiness, said WKU took into account Senate Bill 1 when creating the new admission standards.

Senate Bill 1 passed in March 2009

Rep. Jim DeCesare, R-Bowling Green, who sits on the Budget Review Subcommittee for Postsecondary Education, believes that while there will be cuts, they may turn out being less severe than the governor has proposed.

"Nothing is definite. What the governor has proposed is not the final deal," DeCesare said. "It's my hope that as we get into the budget process, we can make it so where they aren't so severe."

"I hope we can minimize cuts as much as possible," DeCesare said. "We need to prioritize. Education is one of our most vital areas that we need to fund as fully as possible."

Ransdell said that while there might be some changes, WKU is preparing for the worst.

"I don't anticipate a lot of changes to the governor's budget," Ransdell said.

"We will work hard to figure out how to do this, but I can't begin to tell you how."

and gives minimum scores in the math, reading and English sections of the ACT that proves students are ready for college.

"If a student makes at least the minimum score in all three sections, they are guaranteed admission," Hunter said. "If they score less than the minimum score in one or more, the Cornerstone or Steps program are used to help fill in the gap."

Meredith said the new standards are better for students who might have slacked off early in high school but did well in their junior and senior years.

"It raises standards somewhat but also has flexibility," he said. "It's a fair and equitable way to admit students but also speaks to our goal of raising retention."

"We don't want to admit a student that will fail and not do well. We want them to have background and support to be successful."

## CRIME REPORTS

### Reports

■ Sophomore Joel Jakeem German, Southwest Hall, reported on Jan. 22 that his TV was damaged during the break. The cost of the damage is \$440.

■ A lounge chair was reported stolen from Grise Hall lobby on Jan. 20. The cost of the stolen property is \$1,049.73.

### Arrests

■ Senior Troy Davis, Bowling Green, was arrested on Jan. 22 for his second offense of alcohol intoxication in a public place after he was observed yelling and arguing with Hilligan's security.

■ Freshman Jordan Lee Courtney, Keen Hall, was arrested on Jan. 22 for his second offense of alcohol intoxication in a public place in Keen's lobby.

■ Senior Corey O'Nan, Owensboro, was arrested on Jan. 22 near Thompson Complex North Wing for alcohol intoxication, resisting arrest and evading on foot.

■ Freshman Landon Shull, Keen Hall, was arrested on Jan. 22 on an E-warrant from Warren County for failure to appear at his alcohol intoxication in a public place charge.



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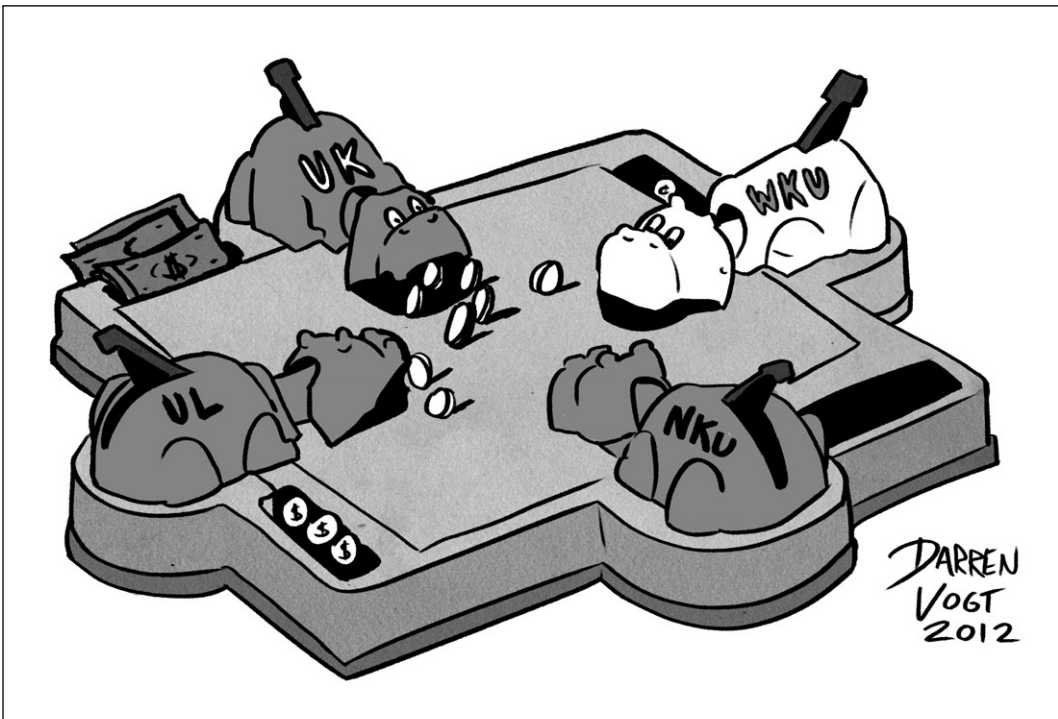
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## STAFF EDITORIAL



## people POLL

Were you in favor of the men's basketball coaching change??



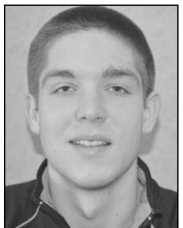
**CAMILLE COLTRAIN**  
Richmond,  
Junior

"I think he should have at least been able to finish out the season"



**AMY GREEN**  
Frankfort,  
Senior

"I think it was an inconvenience for the team, but they did fill him in quickly with the assistant.."



**TYLER MOCK**  
Bowling Green,  
Freshman

"I felt like it was a good thing. I think he had enough time to turn it around...I think the fans thought it was a good choice.."

## Share the (Common) wealth

**THE ISSUE:** Last week, Gov. Steve Beshear gave the 2012 budget address to the Kentucky General Assembly. After losing \$2.3 million last spring in state budget cuts, WKU could lose \$5 million dollars this year. Meanwhile, the University of Kentucky would get authorization to spend \$175 million to build 3,000 new dorm rooms.

**OUR STANCE:** The state's top concern should be education, not renovating or improving facilities at other colleges. With UK continuing to receive money for facilities in such a tough economic climate, it appears the state is catering to its flagship university with misguided priorities.

When money is scarce as it is now, budget cuts are inevitable. However, there is something wrong when such a large amount of money is given to one university to spend while the other universities do not receive the same support.

With the proposed budget, the University of Kentucky would get authorization to spend \$175 million to build new dorm buildings along with \$200 million in new agency bonds for various projects. WKU would receive \$39 million in agency bonds.

In the last decade, WKU has seen its enrollment grow 33 percent from 14,000 students to more than 21,000 students, making it the fastest-growing university in the state. With numbers like this, the state should look closer at its expanding campus and the needs it creates for its students education when making the state budget instead of continuing to take more money from WKU each year.

"I was hoping for a better scenario — a break-even year," President Gary Ransdell said. "Five million is the largest reduction that we've had to date. Ten million has been taken out of our budget since 2008.

"Our primary concern is for 14

years in a row we've watched our state funding for students drop."

With the budget cuts from WKU, the next thing that can be expected to follow is more tuition hikes along with faculty and staff firings. This in turn will undoubtedly affect the quality of our education on the Hill.

Sherron Jackson, associate vice president for budget, planning and policy for the council on postsecondary education, said the state only pays for educational and general-use buildings. For other projects, such as athletic facilities or dorms, the university has to come up with its own funding.

If this is the case then why is UK receiving such a large amount of money for general-use buildings, especially when there is not much money to go around to begin with?

If UK needs money for renovations and improvements, the Herald believes the state should advise the school to look into pri-

vately funding those instead of handing it to them.

The Herald also urges the WKU student body to get involved with the legislative process and flex their political muscle.

UK president Eli Capilouto said in a statement that UK would be in Frankfort "every day" to make their case heard for less cuts to their school. WKU should be there as well making its own case because these cuts will affect all of us.

So speak to your local representative and contact the governor about the budget and let your voice be heard.

UK is not the only school in Kentucky. While they play a major role in the publicity of the state, WKU's impact as the fastest-growing university — and in turn our growing needs — must not be overlooked by our government.

*This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member editorial board.*

## From the editor: We're here for you — the students

Believe it or not, we're halfway through the school year.

The way we at the Herald view it, that's a lot of time left to tell stories — your stories.

After all, that's why we're here.

Most WKU students are involved in some kind of group or organization, each of which have plenty of stories to tell.

We try our hardest to be on top of each of those organizations and their events. But with a staff of about 50-60 students on

a campus with 21,000 students, we're still limited.

So we need your help. If we're not covering something that your group is doing or has done, there's a good chance that it's because we aren't aware of it.

There are plenty of ways to get a hold of us. First, you can reach me at [editor@wkuherald.com](mailto:editor@wkuherald.com). I read every email that comes through.

If email is not your thing, there's also this thing called so-

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Most of you have either a Facebook or Twitter — if not both — and so do we. We read every comment on our Facebook page and every tweet that comes to us. That's also our primary method of getting our stories out.

It's also a good way for you to give us feedback — what you like or what you're upset about that's going on around campus. Feel free to drop a comment on our Facebook

page or send us a tweet with a story idea.

You can also use this space to voice your opinion by sending letters to the editor. We publish all of them that we have space for and can post longer ones online.

It's our mission to tell the stories that matter to you, the students, because you're our target audience. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

**COLE CLAYBOURN**  
Herald editor-in-chief



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The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

1. Letters shouldn't exceed 250 words. Commentaries should be about 500 words and include a picture.
2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.

3. For verification, letters and commentaries **MUST** include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.

4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.

5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.

6. Submissions must be received by 7 p.m. on Sunday and Wednesday.

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TRIVIA TUESDAY

What type of institution did WKU begin as in 1906?

FIRST TO TWEET THE ANSWER TO @WKUHERALD WINS A HERALD T-SHIRT.

tweets from the hill

@DrewsRoyse: WKU IS A COKE CAMPUS! wad up diet coke???? #goodnews -sent Monday 1/9

@MeganSmith02: I really don't care if #wku switches from Pepsi to coke. #idrinkwater #therearebigger-issuesintheworld. -sent Monday 1/9

@AFloyd15: Devastated to hear that WKU is switching to coke products -sent Monday 1/9

@ceckenfels18: Oh my gosh. There's dr pepper at wku. #dream-cometrue -sent Sunday 1/22

@ToddStewartWKU: Thanks #HilltopperNation for staying behind @WKU\_Basketball - last 2 crowds have been largest 2 of season - next home game Feb. 4 USA #7326 -sent Saturday 1/21

@CoachTaggart: B. Rainey is playing once again, we have some wonderful guests on campus, MBB game that will be packed in Diddle. Who has it better than us? -sent Monday 1/21

@MrTallent21: WKU classes start back tomorrow.. Our break just wasn't long enough.. lol -sent Sunday 1/22

@Mae\_Bee: Its FINALLY time to start up the spring 2012 semester WKU. Hope everyone has a great first day back in classes tomorrow!! XOXXOXO -sent Sunday 1/22

@D\_YatesWKU: Reunited with my WKU fam.... #So far so good -sent Sunday 1/22

- ACROSS
- 1 Facts & figures
  - 5 Hockey scores
  - 10 Swat
  - 14 College credit
  - 15 French farewell
  - 16 Short note
  - 17 Blockhead
  - 18 Skin openings
  - 19 Microwave
  - 20 Sports shoe
  - 22 Captain Ahab's trade
  - 24 Food fish
  - 25 Former Secretary of Defense Melvin
  - 26 Military uniform cloth
  - 29 Little guy
  - 30 Sandy seaside
  - 34 Axles
  - 35 Musician's stint
  - 36 Part of the eye
  - 37 Most common conjunction
  - 38 Computer screen
  - 40 Tit for
  - 41 Creased
  - 43 Baby bear
  - 44 Smart
  - 45 Cornered
  - 46 Pesky rodent
  - 47 Chopped finely
  - 48 Deadly
  - 50 Ruby or scarlet
  - 51 Husked, as peanuts
  - 54 Oil and; salad dressing
  - 58 Scotland
  - 59 Helped
  - 61 Running shoe brand
  - 62 Assist in crime
  - 63 Northeastern U.S. state
  - 64 Malicious
  - 65 No longer here
  - 66 Winter vehicles
  - 67 Opposite of acknowledge

- DOWN
- 1 Failures
  - 2 Shortly
  - 3 Scrabble piece
  - 4 Assaults
  - 5 Stared openmouthed
  - 6 Smell
  - 7 Atmosphere
  - 8 Wiggle room
  - 9 Japanese dish of rice and raw seafood
  - 10 Burn sluggishly
  - 11 Mr. Strauss
  - 12 Prayer closing
  - 13 Ping-pong; table tennis
  - 21 Pond fish
  - 23 Ann, MI
  - 25 Sensible
  - 26 Packaged macaroni-and-cheese brand
  - 27 Respect highly
  - 28 Confuse
  - 29 Flour container
  - 31 Prank
  - 32 Stop
  - 33 Detested
  - 35 The Almighty
  - 36 Ear of corn
  - 38 Olympics prize
  - 39 Egypt's boy king
  - 42 Let the air out of
  - 44 Made broader
  - 46 Like most tires nowadays
  - 47 Lair
  - 49 49ers & 76ers
  - 50 Is a passenger
  - 51 Obstacle
  - 52 Tramp
  - 53 If, although
  - 54 Sell
  - 55 Donate
  - 56 Related
  - 57 Depend
  - 60 Pass away

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CAMPUS EVENTS

email your events to editor@wkuherald.com

TU 24

Counseling for Financial Aid, CH 0309, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Spring 2012 President's Round Table, DUC 0349, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
BCM 180 Campus Worship Service, GH 0235, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
SGA Fall 11 & Spring 12, DUC 0305, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Student Advisory Board, DUC 0308, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

W 25

HOSA Guest Speaker, DUC 0226, 3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Informational for Costa Rica Trip, DUC 0308, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Phi Sigma Pi, DUC 0308, 8:30 p.m. to 10:45 p.m.  
Army Reserves, DUC Lobby 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

TH 26

National Student Exchange, DUC Lobby 1, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Counseling for Financial Aid, CH 0309, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
WKU Honors Band Clinic, Van Meter Hall and Music Hall, 3 p.m.  
Study Abroad Information Session, Glasgow campus- GLAS 131, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

F 27

WKU Honors Band Clinic, Van Meter Hall and Music Hall, 8 a.m.  
Prism Concert: Featuring various ensembles from Music Department, Van Meter Hall, Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, 8 p.m.

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SA 28

WKU Honors Band Clinic, Van Meter Hall and Music Hall, 8 a.m.  
Spring Preview Day: Recruitment event for minority students, DUC, 9 a.m.  
Painting Workshop: Special Effects in Water Media by Tom Poole, Kentucky Museum, Registration fee is \$80, 8 a.m.  
Winter Super Saturdays, 12:30 p.m.

SU 29

College Goal Sunday, MMTH, 2 p.m.  
Faculty Recital: Lee Blakeman, trombone, with Deanna Catlett, piano, Choral Rehearsal Hall, Music Hall room 111, 3 p.m.

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# Students find opportunities teaching in the classroom

By **SIDNEY BLANFORD**  
diversions@wkuherald.com

Graduating in three years with a double major seemed unheard of to Kayla Fawbush’s freshman adviser, so much so that the Lawrenceburg senior was advised not to take on the challenge because she would likely be forced to drop out.

Almost three years later, Fawbush is a student teacher planning to graduate in May with a double major in mathematics and science and mathematics education (SMED) with a certification in secondary education.

“Before I was a freshman, I had a professor sit down and tell me I was going to fail out and not complete college,” Fawbush said. “So I was very timid and discouraged.”

Although she felt slightly uneasy, once classes began, she had no doubt this was what she wanted to do.

Bowling Green alumna Emilee Hagan graduated in December with a major in both mathematics and science and mathematics education. She met Fawbush as a sophomore with whom she was partnered in ev-

ery SMED class they had.

“(Fawbush) set a goal to graduate in three years and was willing to do whatever it took to make that goal happen,” Hagan said.

Both Fawbush and Hagan were a part of WKU’s SKyTeach, a program recently adopted by WKU that is funded by the National Math and Science Initiative in attempts to improve the quality of math and science teacher education.

“The SKyTeach program did an excellent job at preparing me for student teaching,” Hagan said. “They got us in a classroom from the beginning for some awesome hands-on experience.”

During her time spent in the SKyTeach program, she went through classes in which she got to go into elementary and middle schools and teach math and science lessons, Fawbush said.

“The SKyTeach program offered a lot of great opportunities,” she said. “The experience and instruction was incredible.”

Now a math teacher at South Warren High School, Sarah White is also a WKU alumna and teaching in the classroom

where Fawbush is completing her student teaching. She said the SKyTeach program is really beneficial to students as they go into their student teaching.

“Kayla is very comfortable with the students,” White said. “She doesn’t hesitate to jump in and help students on assignments.”

Currently, Fawbush works primarily with students in geometry and basic math classes.

“She is very organized and already planning lessons, activities, grading papers, learning students’ names, etc.” White said. “She was born for this.”

Fawbush is one of the 243 WKU students that are student-teaching this semester. One of her peers, Shepherdsville senior William Lanham, is currently completing his student teaching in English at Bullitt East High School.

“It looks good on paper,” Lanham said. “It’s when you get in the classroom that you find out if you are going to fall on your face.”

Although math and sciences are the departments with the SKyTeach program, Lanham said even he got the chance in



ABBY O'BRYAN/HERALD

Lawrenceburg senior Kayla Fawbush student teaches sophomore geometry classes at South Warren High School. Fawbush said double majoring in Mathematics and Science and Math Education has helped prepare her for student teaching.

his undergraduate studies to go into a classroom and observe some great teachers.

“The time you spend in a classroom alongside an experienced teacher provides knowledge and insight that cannot be taught from a textbook,” White said.

Also available to WKU students is the chance to study abroad and complete student teaching. Fawbush said that

WKU has now partnered with 10 foreign countries to provide their student teachers with the chance to complete a month long student teaching program overseas.

On April 6, Fawbush will complete her student teaching in the states. She will then travel to Barcelona, Spain, where she will student-teach until May 10 and then graduate one year prior to her expected graduation date.

# WKU Regents approve doctor of physical therapy program

By **CAMERON KOCH**  
news@wkuherald.com

WKU’s doctor of physical therapy program jumped through one more hurdle at the Board of Regents meeting, on Friday where it was approved unanimously along with five other academic degrees or certificates.

Students can now pursue a graduate certificate in dietetic practice and Lean Sigma, undergraduate certificates in food processing and technology, and minors in news/editorial journalism and global health service in addition to the doctor of physical therapy.

The doctor of physical therapy is the university’s third doctoral program, joining nursing practice and educational leadership.

Harvey Wallmann, director of the doctor of physical therapy program, said he is thankful for the board and upper administration.

“There’s so much support from the upper administration,” Wall-

mann said. “They really want this to go. The reason they brought this on, it’s not just students going ‘Hey, we would like to have this program.’”

“It’s the community going, ‘We need a program.’”

President Gary Ransdell stressed that despite cutbacks in state funding, WKU will continue moving forward with new programs and hiring new faculty such as the doctor of physical therapy and the eight faculty positions needed for the program.

“We’re dedicated to academic quality and filling faculty positions,” Ransdell said.

Only a few more hurdles remain for the program as it seeks to become accredited.

Wallmann said that making contracts with clinical institutions for students to use for training while in the program is the biggest remaining obstacle.

“That’s what we’re working on right now — trying to get those

contractual agreements, which, you know, nothing is over night,” he said.

Wallmann said there are about 50-60 applicants for the program, which is set to launch in the fall. The deadline for applications into the program has been extended until Feb. 15 with the hope of gaining more applicants. Interviews are being planned for the beginning of March.

Thirty applicants will be accepted into the program in its first year.

Currently only two other universities in Kentucky offer physical therapy programs — Bellarmine University and the University of Kentucky.

WKU’s program will consist of 118 credit hours and hands-on training at clinics. UK also has an 118-credit hour program, while Bellarmine University requires 141 hours.

Wallmann stressed the need for another program in the south central region of Kentucky.

“There are a lot of jobs that aren’t out there that could be,” he said.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Regents hear enrollment update, pass bylaw

At the Board of Regents meeting on Friday, Brian Meredith, associate vice president for enrollment management, told the board that enrollment numbers for the winter and spring terms are below average, but he likely knows the cause.

Meredith attributed the slightly lower winter enrollment, down by about 70 students, to the lack of federal Pell Grants for summer and winter terms. Previously, Pell Grants could be used for special terms such as summer and winter, but now only applies to fall and spring terms.

“We believe Pell is absolutely driving this,” Meredith said.

Though overall enrollment was down, especially among freshmen, senior enrollment in winter and spring classes was up. Meredith said this is proof that retention efforts are working.

At the meeting, the board also amended the bylaws. The new amendment will help protect board members from fines, penalties, and expenses that could arise from threatened, pending or completed legal action, as long as the board member acted in good faith on behalf of the university.

— Cameron Koch

# Diddle Arena the Focus of Army ROTC



DOROTHY EDWARDS/HERALD

Sgt. 1st Class Richard A. Villeneuve (left) and Sgt. 1st Class Charles K. Honaker hang a banner in Diddle Arena on Friday, Jan. 20 as a part of a \$38,000 ROTC branding project at WKU. The project is cost free to the university and ROTC.

By **JOHNATHON HUDGINS**  
news@wkuherald.com

As one of seven universities chosen this year by the U.S. Army Cadet Command for added branding support, WKU, its students and visitors will be seeing added Army ROTC signage and awareness at Diddle Arena.

Sgt. 1st Class Charles K. Houaker of the Army’s Accessions Support Brigade said Friday, as he

and Sgt. 1st Class Richard A. Villeneuve were hanging prints in Diddle Arena, that seven schools are chosen from eight regions annually for added branding support.

The cost of materials used for this project are about \$23,000, with the average cost per school being about \$28,000.

Houaker said that the labor used to install the material would cost an estimated \$10,000 if an out-

side company was hired to install it instead of the Army.

Villeneuve said that the Army producing and installing the branding materials, which include prints, pop-up banners and all other signage, helps cut costs.

“From beginning to end, it’s all Army,” Villeneuve said.

Houaker said that in addition to helping with recruitment and retention in the ROTC program, the added branding around Diddle Arena will help build camaraderie between ROTC and the school.

He also said that the sense of patriotism from the school and the community is already high and that he felt welcomed at WKU.

Villeneuve said that not only have the students and faculty been welcoming, they have also been very supportive and helpful during the process.

“A ‘thank you’ from a student brings a tear to the eye,” Villeneuve said.

Houaker said that he has been to multiple universities across the country doing the same thing that he is doing at WKU.

Before branding is installed, Army representatives are sent to the chosen school to take pictures and measurements of the site where the material will be posted.

After the assessments have been made, the Army meets with the school and its ROTC program to discuss branding options and concepts.

Capt. Joe Huggins, WKU’s ROTC Recruitment Operations Officer, said the Army and its Cadet Command provide other materials and support throughout the year for special events and other things.

Although there is already some branding posted around campus, this project will be centered on Diddle Arena.

“We will focus branding on Diddle Arena to see what we can do and later on possibly spread around campus,” Huggins said.

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## COACH

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

"We used the words 'aggressive' and 'fast' I think more than we ever have since I've been here," freshman forward Vinny Zollo said after WKU's loss to Troy on Jan. 7. "I think his big stress point would be, 'Let's come out, let's be the aggressor. Let's put the other team on their heels. Let's do what they've been doing to us.' I really think that's direction he wants to put us in."

Doing so will help WKU adjust to whatever their opponent throws at them, Harper said.

"We want to be that basketball team that can play any way you want to play," he said. "You want to play real fast? We can play that way. You want to grind it out? We're a better team grinding it out than you."

Perhaps the most important thing Harper has done since taking over as head coach is instill excitement into a fan base that has seen one of the NCAA's winningest programs fall

to irrelevance the past two seasons.

The announced attendance at McDonald's final game at WKU, a 72-70 Topper loss to Louisiana-Lafayette on Jan. 5, was 2,137. Athletics Director Ross Bjork said that total was actually closer to 1,800 fans because the announced figure was "bumped up."

Two nights later 5,172 people were in Diddle Arena to see WKU and its new look, bringing with them high hopes that Harper could help guide the program back to its winning ways.

Even after two double-digit road losses, 4,254 showed up to Saturday's game. So with that, the two highest home attendance totals this season have come in Harper's first two games.

Bjork and President Gary Ransdell have both said Harper will "certainly" be included as a candidate for the full-time head coaching position, and Ransdell said Harper's early tenure has been a good change of pace.

"It's begun to breathe new life into the program," Ransdell said.

## TOPS

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Marchionda watched senior Stephanie Martin go out in fashion with her performance in the 200-yard breaststroke. She set a new school record with her time of 2 minutes, 16.65 seconds.

"It felt amazing," Martin said. "Honestly, I didn't think I'd do that good today because of the training, but yeah, it happened and it felt great."

Marchionda credited her record-breaking time to the hard work she puts in consistently.

"To do that at this particular time is very phenomenal," Marchionda said. "Of course she's that kind of person that really thrives on working hard. The more work she does, the better off she is, so she kind of proved that today. We're expecting some pretty big things from her four weeks from now."

On the men's side, senior Kevin Knezevich won first place in the 100 butterfly in his last home event.

"I thought I did pretty good just like



I thought I did pretty good just like the rest of the team coming off hard training and swimming pretty fast"

—KEVIN KNEZEVICH  
Senior

the rest of the team coming off hard training and swimming pretty fast," Knezevich said.

WKU wraps up their regular season schedule Saturday against Southern Illinois and looks toward Sun Belt Conference Championships in late February.

"Hopefully if we can beat [Southern Illinois] and put up some really good times, that's going to give them a lot of confidence going into the final preparation for the conference championships," Marchionda said.

## SPORTS BRIEF

### Regents approve Taggart's contract

Willie Taggart's new contract was approved by the Board of Regents Friday at their quarterly meeting.

WKU's head coach will now make \$475,000 annually, making him the school's highest-paid employee.

The contract also includes performance-based incentives which would pay Taggart more.

Taggart's previous annual salary was \$225,000.

Faculty Regent Patti Minter was the only board member to vote against the contract in its current form.

—Cameron Koch

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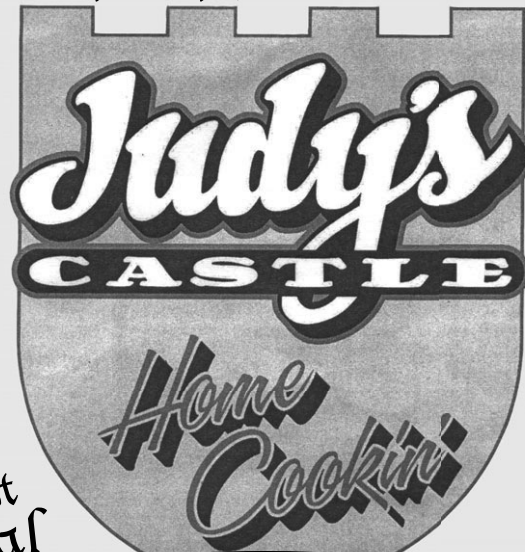
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# Cowles wants more touches for Owens

By BRAD STEPHENS  
sports@wkuherald.com

LaTeira Owens is riding what may be the best stretch of her WKU career. The Lady Toppers' senior forward has notched three straight double-doubles, including a 22-point, 12-rebound performance in a 61-50 loss to Arkansas-Little Rock Sunday in Diddle Arena.

During that stretch, Owens, a preseason All-Sun Belt Conference third-team selection, has averaged 17 points and 12.7 rebounds per game. That's why, after Owens went 7-of-11 Sunday, Head Coach Mary Taylor Cowles told the media she wants more touches for the 6-foot-1 Columbia, Tenn., native.

"Eleven shots is not enough shots for LaTeira Owens," Cowles said.

Owens was one of the few bright spots for WKU (6-13, 3-4 Sun Belt) offensively against UALR, as she and fellow senior forward Teranie Thomas combined for 38 of the Lady Toppers' 50 points.

Meanwhile, the rest of the WKU team went 5-of-28 and committed 19 turnovers.

Yet during a stretch between the 2:37 and 0:45 marks of the sec-

ond half, with the Lady Toppers trailing 55-50, WKU was unable to find a way for Owens to take a shot.



Cowles

The Lady Toppers' three possessions during that final stretch instead resulted in a turnover by senior forward Keshia Mosley and missed shots by Thomas and senior guard Vanessa Obafemi.

"When you're post produced, especially the way LaTeira did, that just really makes it a greater emphasis on getting the ball inside," Cowles said. "Not that she's going to take all the shots — it might be inside touches. Maybe that creates a double-team situation because of how well she's scoring, and maybe it opens up a kick out or slash or cut."

"We've got to get her more touches."

Owens' consistency in recent weeks has been welcomed for a team which has struggled to find consistency this season.

Sunday the Lady Toppers were coming off their best offensive game

of the season, a 71-58 win over Tennessee Tech on Jan. 17.

In that game, freshman guard Alexis Govan, freshman forward Chastity Gooch and Obafemi combined for 23 points.

That same trio combined for zero points against UALR.

Owens said a lack of on-court team consistency began with a lack of mental consistency.

"We all need to come in focused every day in games, in practices and come in ready," Owens said. "We've just got to find it because it's going to get later and later in the season, and then we're looking at the wall."

The Lady Toppers will need to find that focus this week as they go on the road, where they're currently 0-9 this season.

This week's trip, the annual Florida Atlantic — Florida International road swing may be one of their toughest this season.

WKU meets FAU (10-8, 5-2) at 6 p.m. Wednesday in Boca Raton, then plays FIU (13-7, 3-4) at 4:30 p.m. Saturday in Miami.

"We've just got to come ready to play," Owens said. "They're not easy teams."

## VERBALS

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Grice, a Rivals four-star prospect, is a current Texas A&M verbal commitment who also holds offers from Oklahoma, Arkansas and others.

Harrington, who played

last season at Alfred State Community College in Alfred, N.Y., told the Herald "everything's good, they're showing love," when asked about this weekend's visit.

Harrington is also considering Akron and Buffalo.

Rivals three-star run-

ning back Jamie Gilmore is taking his official visit to WKU this week.

Gilmore is also considering Temple and USF.

WKU will host additional recruits on the weekend of Jan. 27-29, before most make their college decision final on National Signing Day, Feb. 1.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL



ELIZABETH FRANTZ/HERALD  
Head Coach Ray Harper gives instruction to his team in a timeout during WKU's loss to Troy on Jan. 7 in Diddle Arena.

# New coach, new look

## Toppers playing up-tempo under Harper

By COLE CLAYBOURN  
sports@wkuherald.com

With a new coach often comes a new identity for a team.

That's no different with WKU basketball, as the Toppers have embraced a new personality four games into Interim Head Coach Ray Harper's tenure.

As soon as Harper took over, WKU shed its old offensive approach of running half-court sets and a slower tempo for a much faster-paced, run-and-gun style of play.

"I think it's a must for good basketball teams to get good shots, hit easy buckets because of your defense," Harper said. "I think a way we get easy baskets is because of our defense creating bad shots that will lead us to some transition baskets getting out and running — we got some of those today. You can't continually play in the half-court."

The new style made its debut on Jan. 7 against Troy — Harper's first game as head coach after re-

placing Ken McDonald, who was fired on Jan. 6 after a 5-11 start to the season.

The results haven't paid dividends in the win column early on quite like Harper and the players would like, as WKU has gone 1-3 under Harper, though two losses came against North Texas and Denver — two of the top teams in the Sun Belt Conference.

But statistically, improvements are there.

Heading into Harper's first game, WKU was averaging 62 points per game. The Toppers have surpassed that mark in each of Harper's four games.

In WKU's 65-53 win over Arkansas-Little Rock on Saturday, the Toppers forced the Trojans into 17 turnovers which they turned into 23 points.

It's all a part of Harper's idea that his team should be the tougher team, a concept he presented to fans and media the day he was introduced as interim coach.

SEE COACH, PAGE 8

March 14	January 5	January 6	January 7	January 21
On the heels of a 16-16 season, Athletics Director Ross Bjork and Head Coach Ken McDonald held a press conference to announce that McDonald would be back for the 2011-2012 season with a \$100,000 pay cut.	WKU loses to Louisiana-Lafayette, 72-70, in overtime in front of 2,137 fans in Diddle Arena, falling to 5-11 on the season. ULL hits the game-winning shot with six players on the court.	McDonald is fired around 9 a.m., and assistant Ray Harper is promoted to interim head coach. Athletics Director Ross Bjork said the players were "suffering in the environment" under McDonald.	WKU loses 67-65 to Troy in front of 5,172 fans in Diddle Arena Harper's first game as head coach. It was the largest home crowd to date for a Topper basketball game during the 2011-2012 season.	WKU uses a 21-4 run in the game's final five minutes to beat Arkansas-Little Rock, 65-53, to snap a five-game losing streak in front of 4,254 fans. Harper earns his first win as a Division I head coach.

FOOTBALL

# WKU verbals include four-star QB Smith

By JORDAN WELLS  
sports@wkuherald.com

Rivals.com ranked Head Coach Willie Taggart's first and second recruiting classes at the top of the Sun Belt Conference.

But Taggart's third recruiting class could be his best thanks to Class of 2011 four-star quarterback DaMarcus Smith.

Smith, from Louisville Seneca High School, competed at the Elite 11 quarterback camp in California as a senior.

There he played alongside quarterbacks headed to Alabama, Florida, Southern California, Stanford and other Bowl Championship Series schools.

Smith broke his original commitment to Louisville and signed a letter of intent last February to play at Central Florida. But he failed to qualify academically, reopening his recruitment.

After a season away from football, Smith has landed at WKU.

"I think the sky is the limit for WKU football," Smith said. "Last year was really a struggle for me. I made mistakes, but I learned from them. I'm humbled and grateful to have a second chance at another university, get an education and be a part of a football team that's up and coming."

Smith is coming to WKU along with Seneca teammate Michael Fluellen, a 6-foot-5 wide receiver who will walk on in 2012 before going on scholarship in 2013.

In their final high school game together, a play-off loss to St. Xavier High School, Smith threw for more than 400 yards, four touchdowns and ran for one more.

All four touchdowns were thrown to Fluellen, who finished with seven catches for 170 yards.

Meanwhile the Louisville Courier-Journal reported Sunday that offensive lineman Tyler English and defensive tackles Marquez Pride and Devante Terrell all accepted scholarship offers during official visits to WKU this weekend.

English was a starter for Louisville Trinity High School's 2011 Class 6A state championship team, which was ranked No. 1 nationally in some polls.

He chose the Toppers over Air Force and Miami of Ohio.

Pride, a Madison, Ala., native, chose the Toppers over Sun Belt Conference rival Troy.

And Terrell, a Rivals three-star prospect, gave WKU his commitment over Missouri and South Florida.

South Warren High School kicker Clay Nelson also committed to WKU on Sunday, according to the Courier-Journal.

Nelson, who will walk-on, made 11-of-13 field goals in 2011, earning first-team All-State honors.

Two other Louisville high school prospects, defensive tackle Tyrone Pearson and running back Anthony "Ace" Wales of Louisville Central High School, were on campus this weekend.

Pearson, who Rivals.com lists with offers from seven Southeastern Conference schools, tweeted that he was "having a great official visit at WKU."

Wales visited despite making a verbal commitment to Louisville earlier in the week.

Other visitors included junior college running back Marion Grice and junior college defensive back Brett Harrington.

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SWIMMING

# Tops sweep Senior Day meet

By KURT CARSON  
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WKU's swimming teams capped off their Senior Day festivities Saturday with solid victories on both the men's and women's side.

The men's team (7-1) and women's team (9-1) defeated University of the Cumberlands Saturday in their last home meet of the season at the Bill Powell Natatorium.

Head Coach Bruce Marchionda said he was impressed with how the teams performed given what they've been through the past couple of weeks.

WKU is coming off its hardest training phase of the year and got off a 15-hour bus ride just one day before Saturday's meet.

"The major thing that we were able to do today was get up and race," Marchionda said. "Coming off this trip of 14

days of very, very hard training, a 15-hour bus ride yesterday, and to get off, they could've easily used that as an excuse. But they didn't, and that was the nice thing to see today."

It was a special day for the seniors in what was their last meet in front of the home crowd.

WKU boasts 17 seniors between the men's and women's squads.

Marchionda said he's enjoyed watching the seniors develop over their time at WKU.

"We had a lot of alumni in the stands today, and to see them just really reiterates how fast this opportunity to compete at the highest level goes in four years," Marchionda said. "There's not many people that have the chance to compete at this level, so just to watch them mature as an athlete and as a person is the fun part of coaching."

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JUSTIN PHILALACK/HERALD  
WKU and University of the Cumberlands swimmers take cool down laps after their meet Saturday afternoon at Bill Powell Natatorium. The Toppers swept the event.